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FULL TEXT OF NEW ORLEANS' DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S L.A. SPEECH CRITICIZING JOHNSON ON KENNEDY ASSASSINATION

GARRISON SAYS LBJ PROTECTS ASSASSINS

SEE PAGE THREE

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GARRISON SAYS, 'NOW OUR GOVERNMENT IS LYING!'

Thank you Art. Ladies and Gentlemen, I'm very honored to be invited here. After reading some of the things I've read about myself in the press, I think it's very gracious of the radio and television press in Southern California to invite me to eat in the same room with them.

I'm glad to see that my friends from NBC are here too, because NBC, as you know, has such a burning interest in the right of the people to know. Art mentioned that I had a message and curiously enough, he touched on the message when he mentioned the magazine articles he had in his hand. He showed it to me a few mintues ago and it caused me to make some notes because essentially my message is simply that the government does not have the right to lie.

If the government has the right to lie, it has the right to murder. And I can assure you, that any government which is able to get away with a lie, will get away with a murder. Because the name of the situation we have when a government is allowed to lie, with equanimity, is fascism, that's all it is, fascism!

And when you reach the point where you can have magazine articles, with men writing articles such as "The government has a right to lie," or "I'm glad the CIA is immoral," what you reach is a point of acceptability of fascism in certain areas. And I think it's a time to become concerned. Because that's what the Kennedy assassination is all about. And the fraudulent concealment of what really happened, that's what it is all about, too.

The fact is that some degree of fascism has arrived in our country. You recall that George Santayana said "those who do not learn from history are condemned to relive it." If we have not learned from our experiences before and during World War II, what fascism is, then we in time ourselves, will be condemned to relive the very history that they did. Because we are headed in that direction.

Fascism, just to summarize it briefly, is the kind of government you have when the government, although using populist phrases like bread and work, is really alienated from the people.

Fascism is what you have when violence, such as the assassination of the President, becomes acceptable. And fascism is what you have when a fraud perpetrated by the government, and the Big Lie becomes acceptable. Because the government is so powerful, that individuals and even many publications are afraid to oppose it.

Fascism is what you have when there is a question about what happens to the dissenter. The most important thing we have in our way of life, in our form of government, is the fact that the dissenter is usually available to survive, even when he criticizes the most powerful men in government.

But we have reached the point in recent years, perhaps because of the development of the industrial warfare machine that Eisenhower warned about, where major magazines and major publications hesitate to criticize the government. And before they take a position, test the wind, to see from which way it's blowing.

Truth becomes secondary, justice becomes secondary. Truth is whatever the government wants to be believed. And justice is whatever the government wants to happen.

We have reached that point. And I want to try and give you a few examples to show you. Now, what I'm going to say tonight, I

Because our introductory note became longer than planned, it will not fit into this space. Please see the facing box on page two.

am going to make short, because I know that you have a lot of awards to give, will probably not be liked by everybody here, but, if what I said was liked by everybody here, then I wouldn't be doing it right.

Because, I want to say things to you that are true, and when something is said that is true, the one thing that is predictable is that it will not be liked by everybody. It will be necessary for me to pick a few bones with the Great Society. These will be domestic bones, so it won't involve the war in Vietnam, or the use of napalm on other human beings, but it will involve the question of whether or not the government has a right to lie. Because our government has been lying to the people of this country now, for nearly four years.

You are being fooled. Every man and woman in this country is being fooled. And tonight, I'm going to tell you who is responsible.

Now, back in the early 30's, when fascism arrived on the scene in Germany, oddly enough, it arrived in a way that closely paralles the arrival here in November of 1963. The Reichstag fire if you will remember, was clearly set by the Nazis, but a young communist was seized and executed for it. And as a result of this everyone was satisfied that it had been looked into, and the Nazis in turn, were able to profit in terms of power from it.

This, of course, is the essential technique of fascism; to satisfy the people and cause them to think that they live in the best of all possible worlds. It's not just a fascist tecnique, it's a totalitarian technique, which the Soviet government perfected many years ago. For example, during the years when Stalin was liquidating his enemies, and entrenching his power, there was no mention of it in Pravda, and no mention of it in other Russian journals, except on occasion to point what monsters these individuals were.

More often than not, they disappeared, without any sign of their disappearance. The best book that I know of for those of you who would like to see what happens to a country when the management begins to think that it has the right to lie, and when the management really thinks it's all right to be proud of its immorality, is George Orwell's "1984," and I commend it to you.

When it was written in 1949, it was really written about Russia. But if you read it now, you will find you are reading about Russia and our own government. This should not be so! But that's the way it is. Because the average way many people in our government think is they have the right to lie. As a matter of fact, no government has ever existed since man arrived on earth, that was more important than the truth.

If our government has reached the point where the survival of the government is more important than the truth, then the best thing that could happen would be for it to fall. So you can start—we can start—building a new government tomorrow morning out of law. Because we can always build a government, but life is not worth living in a fascist or totalitarian government, unless you fight it. And if the government is lying then you have to fight it.

Now our government is lying! And I want to give you a few examples. What the United States government did in the Kennedy assassination, and it was a well-planned assassination, involving a number of individuals as you will learn, I assure you. What the government did, was to practice two essential actions to conceal the truth of the assassination.

One was concealment of evidence and the other was destruction of evidence. And very briefly, I want to give you some examples of the technique they used. In specific terms, of course I'm not going to speak about Mr. Shaw's case, I haven't spoken about Mr. Shaw's case since the day we charged him, in spite of what you may have read.

On the other hand, I think you would appreciate the statistics so, if you will bear with me, I'm going to give you some, and I'm going to show you what your government has done, and I'm going to tell you why.

Now, examples of the destruction of evidence begin with the burning of the autopsy notes by Commander Humes. Of course, one of the most important questions in the entire assassination was the question of the direction of the bullets. Since everybody who has looked into the assassination knows, I think without any exception, the fatal shots were fired from the front of the president. In order to keep this a secret from the People of the United States, the notes of Doctor Hume of the autopsy, were burned by Doctor Humes, and he was subsequently promoted.

Another case of spontaneous combustion occured when a CIA memo requested by the Warren Commission, was accidently burned while being Thermofaxed. This happened the day after the assassination, in Washington.

The Federal agent who interviewed Oswald in New Orleans, a gentleman named Quigley, burned his notes after the interview. Yet he belongs to an agency whose policy is never to burn

New Orleans' District Attorney Jim Garrison spoke Tuesday night at Century Plaza Hotel about his Kennedy Assassination probe.

notes.

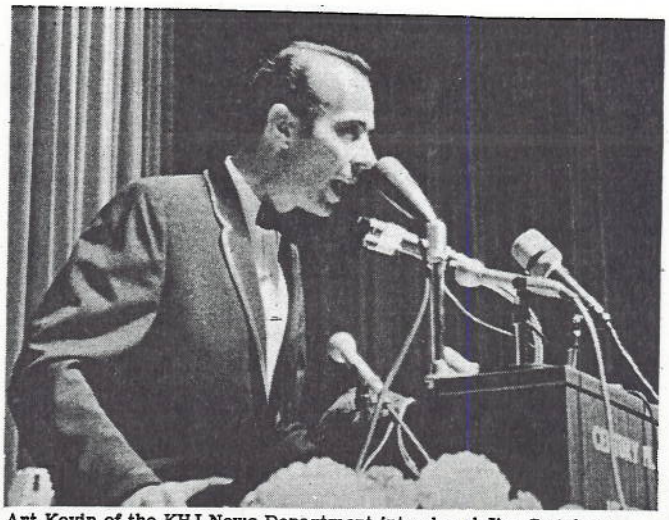
The major landmarks on the grassy knoll area where the assassination occured, have been changed. Signs have been moved, to make it harder for measurements to be made.

Another interesting example, of what the government has done is turn your attention away from the direction where the assassins came from, and cause you to look into another spectrum, another area.

I have to explain to you, before I go into this, so that you will understand, because I am about to talk about political ideology. And you don't know me, so I have to tell you that, I certainly don't claim any special merit in it, my political position is pretty much in the center-of-the-road. We need conservatives, obviously for stability, and of course we need liberals, too, because they give us progress.

But one of the particular problems in this case is that everybody is trying to impose their own political ideology on the assassination. For example, friends of mine who are conservatives, can't conceive of anybody but an extreme liberal killing the president. And friends of mine who are liberal, can't conceive of anything but an extreme conservative.

Of course, neither extreme has



Art Kevin of the KHJ News Department introduced Jim Garrison but for reasons of space we can not reproduce his penetrating remarks.

Free Press photos by Paul Eberle and John Zinn's camera.

a monopoly on virtue and by the same token neither extreme has a monopoly on murder. And it just happens to be a fact that in this case, the President was murdered by militant members of the right wing. The main function of the Warren Commission, and the reason it was appointed, the main function of the Warren Commission was to conceal the fact that militant right-wing individuals had killed the President of the United States. And also to conceal the fact that individuals connected with the Central Intelligence Agency were involved.

Now, with this in mind, you can better appreciate that among the items of evidence destroyed, or changed, which is a form of destruction, is in Oswald's notebook. If you were to open Lee Oswald's notebook, one of the first names and phone numbers you see is General Edwin Walker's name. Has Walker there, and has his phone number. Now, when the United States government got finished re-typing that name, into a memo, Walker, had become Volke; now I'm just giving that as an example to show you how systematically everything that even touched the right-wing they either eliminated or concealed. It doesn't mean necessarily that General Walker is involved. But the point is, the United States government was well aware of where the assassins were located on the political spectrum.

And, without exception, every case where the trail led to the Right, the evidence has been destroyed by the government, or concealed. You can see it in 72 years or 71 years, but you got to wait.

Now here's an example of the kind of evidence that they concealed: there is a picture, it's Commission exhibit #5, which shows a car parked at General Walker's house. Now when this picture was picked up at Mrs Paine's presumably in the hands of Oswald, although there were questions about that, the license number on the car was clear. There's no question about that. But by the time they printed the

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picture in the Commission exhibit, a large hole had been punched in the license number.

So, if you want to go to your library and look up Commission exhibit #5, you will see a car parked at General Walker's in which the trunk appears to have exploded, because someone punched a hole in it. But this is just part of the systematic pattern. Again, and again, for example, one of the books which you cannot see, you cannot look at is called "Nazis and Fascists of Today," published in Paris.

The French version is available to you, except the government lost all those copies. They just don't have them. The English version you cannot see for many years. They just don't want you to see it.

Again, another form of destruction which has occured, and I can't say that the government has done this, all I can say is that someone has, is key witnesses, is the fact that key witnesses are being destroyed.

Nancy Mooney was killed because she knew who was visiting Jack Ruby at his office, in the Carousel Club.

And Hank Killian was killed, too, because he knew of the connection between Jack Ruby and Lee Oswald.

Incidently, I might add a connection which was so easy to establish, no one can take any credit for it. There is simply no question about the fact that there was a very close relationship between Lee Oswald and Jack Ruby for well over a year.

The autopsy photos, now concealed for nearly four years, 22 colored pictures, 18 black and white, 11 X-rays, all concealed. Now remember, the main question, the burning question was from how many directions was the President shot, and where was he hit, and where did the fatal shot come from. And which shot was the fatal shot? Yet, even today, you cannot see the autopsy photographs and the reason you cannot see them is because they would show that the President was shot from the front, as well as the back. And they would show that the fatal shot came from the front.

Now, the witnesses in the grassy knoll area, virtually every one of them heard the shots coming from the grassy knoll vicinity. And at least one has seen one of the individuals behind the stone wall. These people were not called to the Warren Commission, they were not called by the Warren Commission, because they would have testified about the shots coming from the grassy knoll area. And you're not supposed to know that.

Nor were you told that no examination was made of the Manlicher-Carcano which Oswald supposedly fired but never did. No examination was made to determine whether it WAS fired. They couldn't make an examination of it, because of the possibility it may not have been fired. And the reason this position was taken, was because of their awareness that he (Oswald) was not involved in the shooting.

Oswald's fingerprints were not on the rifle, although the inference was given that they were. Oswald's fingerprints were not on the Smith & Wesson 38, that killed Tipppit, although the inference has been created that they were.

Remember, supposedly, Oswald who did not kill Tippit, supposedly he ran, unloading cartridges as he ran and putting in new bullets , then in the Texas Theater, he stood up and yelled, "This is it!" and supposedly there was a big struggle, and he tried to shoot an officer, and they got this gun from him.

Well, when that gun was examined, there was not a fingerprint on it. It had been wiped clean. And the reason, it had been wiped clean, is that Oswald never held it in his hand, another gratuituous contribution to the scenario by the Dallas police force.

And you haven't been told, unless you've made a hobby, as some people have of looking deeply into it, that the nitrate indicated that Lee Oswald had not fired a rifle that day. There's no question about this. This became so clear that the Warren Commission was forced to take this standard test, that is accepted all over the world and try to develop a new position that there was a question about it.

The allegations of Pfc. Eugene Denkin's, perhaps my favorite concealed file, bothered me for some time, until we heard from an individual who was in Pfc. Eugene Denkin's outfit in Germany. Now, the allegations of Pfc. Denkin's is one of the files you cannot see for many years, and the reason you cannot see it, is that in late 1962, and in early 1963, Pfc. Eugene Denkin's was making the incredible allegation that he was confident that President Kennedy would be assassinated by members of the militant right-wing. Now, for some reason, someone in the government is sensitive about that, and you cannot see it.

Again, you find that in the permanent Carousel cards that Jack Ruby had, and was about to have laminated, which contains some of his closer friends, and in his notes, which were in his car, one of the addresses he had behind the name Tom Hill, was the home address of Robert Welch, of the John Birch Society.

Now, let me make this point: that doesn't mean the John Birch Society is involved in this, be-

cause they're not. There's no group like that involved, but the point is that it does indicate a certain degree of right wing orientation on Jack Ruby's part, but no mention is made to you that that address behind Tom Hill's name, is the home address in Massachusetts of Robert Welch.

Similarly, when the phone calls from Earl Ruby up in Detroit are indicated, they do not tell you how many times Earl Ruby called the James Welch candy company in Massachusetts. Suddenly, they become very casual about how many calls are made because

again, there's an inference of militant right wing orientation and they want to conceal this from you.

Again, they have concealed the file entitled "Lee Harvey Oswald's acess to information about the U-2." The reason you can't see that for many years is because you will then realize that Lee Oswald was working for the United States government, as a CIA employee, and they don't want you to know that.

Again, when the attorneys for the Warren Commission saw the number, 544 Kent on the pamphlets that Oswald. supposedly

a communist was giving out, they knew immediately who was at 544 Kent. This building housed the most conservative reactionaries in the city of New Orleans, Guy Bannister, in whose office Sergio Arcacia and David Ferrie, who did know Oswald very well—from whose office they operated. But they treated that en passant, as if it had no significance at all, because again they do not want you to know that President Kennedy was killed as a result of a militant right-wing plot.

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Now, again, you are being fooled. Oswald did not fire a gun, he did not shoot anybody, and the United States government has to know it. There cannot possibly be any question in their minds.

And if there remains anyone in this audience who thinks that the members of the Warren Commission left in this regard, let me just call to your attention, that long before they ceased functioning on the Warren Commission, long before that, the burning question was, from how many directions the shots came and where was the President killed. Nevertheless, not a single member of the seven, not one, not one member of the Warren Commission looked at the photographs of the autopsy, or looked at the X-ray pictures. Because they knew what they would see, they knew that the President had been shot from the front, and they did not want to lose their innocence.

There's no other possible explanation for that.

Now, despite the concealment, and the destruction of evidence, there are examples of how the Warren Commission conclusion is fraudulent, within the Warren Commission itself. And I'm just going to give you a few examples here, very briefly, but if you want

to note them down with a pencil, you can go look at the Warren Commission exhibits, at your library, and I think after you look at them, you will realize that the conclusion is untrue.

For example, if you look at Commission exhibit #392, you'll see that Dr. McClellen has indicated the cause of death as a gunshot wound of the temple. Commission exhibit #392—by the time they realized it was out, apparently it was too late, so they colored the paper very dark so it's a little hard for you to read. But if you look close, you'll see it's a gunshot wound to the temple, and of course, unless they've changed it in the meanwhile, the Book Depository used to be behind where the president was.

Again, the Warren Commission indicated to you and to the American people, that Oswald must have learned Russian on his bunk at night and studying because he was such a Marxist, such a communist, he wanted to get over to Russia, and yet a slip of the tongue occured during the testimony of Commander Folsom, and if you look at the Folsom exhibit, the Folsom testimony rather, in the testimony section, you'll find Commander Folsom referring to Oswald's grade in an Armed Forces Russian examination. P.R.T. 21, Practical Russian Test 21, United States Army examination. He was taught Russian by the United States government.

The same government which employed him, the same government which ultimately framed him because this government believes that it is all right to tell lies.

You will recall that Oswald is supposed to have been a Russian defector, and yet one of his first jobs on his return from Russia was at Jagger, Stover, Childs, which is a company which did high level, high security work for the United States government, including photography and special kinds of map work, and again in 1963, in summer of '63, when this communist defector sought a passport, he got one in 24 hours.

Now the other individuals who applied on that day did not get it in 24 hours, but Oswald got his, a passport to go to Europe, Spain and many other places, in 24 hours. As most of you know, this is not possible, not to even get a passport, if you are truly a defector.

Now, another example of the Lee Oswald-Jack Ruby relationship—there are many witnesses available—and it's no problem for any prosecutor who is concerned about bringing out the truth to develop eye-witnesses who saw Ruby and Oswald together, not merely in Dallas, but in many other towns. That was just not that hard. But if you want to see an example in the Warren Commission itself, a few examples, I'll give some places to look:

First of all, I think many of you are familiar already with the fact that Jack Ruby had a business relationship with Bertha Cheek and that Lee Oswald was living in a house owned by Bertha Cheek's sister, Erline Roberts, at 1026 North Beckley. This didn't arouse the Commission's interest at all. It didn't arouse the Commission's interest even when eye-witnesses

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saw them together, at the Carousel Club, such as, for example on the date of November 10th.

If you look at Lee Oswald's addressbook, you will see the number FR 5-5591. This is the phone number of Kenneth Cody, FR 5-5591. Who is Kenneth Cody? He is the uncle of Joe Cody, on the police force, who, in his testimony, before the Warren Commission, admitted that he had been a very close friend of Jack Ruby's for many years. For many years.

Again, if you look at Oswald's addressbook, you will see PE 8-1951. You will see it several times in Volume 16, in Oswald's addressbook. PE 8-1951. On June the 10th and June 11, 1963, Jack Ruby called that number twice. It's a number in Fort Worth. When Jack Ruby called that number, he was in New Orleans, and Oswald was in New Orleans.

Now, there are not a great many people in this room, but I doubt if there's anybody in this room that has in their address book any numbers which I have in mine, and yet this was not a matter of curiosity to the Commission at all. And the reason it was not a curiosity I'm sure,

is that they were very well aware, very well aware of the fact that there was indeed a close relationship betwee Lee Oswald and Jack Ruby. It just isn't even close. They just had to know.

So when they pretended that Ruby did not know Oswald, and pretended that he killed him because he did not want Jackie Kennedy to testify in court, your government was lying to you again, just as they lie to you now, when Ramsey Clarke announces that

we have charged an innocent man, surely, a statement which has never been made in history by an Attorney General of the United States in charge of the very division which is supposed to be concerned about government, attempting to torpedo in advance, the state's case; when he does that, and when the Chief Justice of the United States announces from Tokyo, that he has seen nothing new in our case, I don't know what he was doing in Tokyo, presumably inspecting the 7th Fleet—but whatever he was doing down there, he has to know that he will never know what our case is about until we come in court, and he was performing a function —FOR WHOM was he performing a function?

FOR WHOM was Ramsey Clark performing?

Who is responsible for the continued obstruction of the first

honest investigation that this country has had into the assassination?

Harry Truman had a sign on his desk when he was President, which says "The buck stops here."

Who appointed the Warren Commission? Who was aware that there was a CIA problem and caused the seven man commission to be composed of the former head of the CIA, Allen Dulles; the best friend the CIA has in the Senate, Senator Russell; the best friend the CIA has in the House, Congressman Gerald Ford; and the former head of the OSS, out of which the CIA grew, John J. McCloy. The Commission weighted in advance by the defenders of the CIA.

Who appointed Ramsey Clark, who has done his best to torpedo the investigation of the case? Who controls the CIA? Who controls

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the FBI? Who controls the Archives where this evidence is locked up for so long that it is unlikely that there is anybody in this room that will be alive when it is released.

This is really your property, and the property of the people in this country. Who has the arrogance and the brass to prevent the people in this country from seeing that evidence? Who indeed?

The one man who has profited most from the assassination—your friendly President!!

Lyndon Johnson.

And don't be fooled by the humility and the picking up of faggots, don't be fooled by that. The question is, when do we get to see the evidence about the murder of John Kennedy? That's the question! And he's the man who's responsible for hiding it. I've leaned over backwards for months now while our phones have been monitored, while the government has done everything it could to torpedo the investigaton, because they know we stumbled on it, and I claim no virtue—we're not great investigators. It was largely luck. We stumbled on it. But we did stumble on it, and we do know what happened. And it won't even be close, there won't be any acquittals, if we can get these people to trial—if we can get them to trial. If we can prevent the U.S. Government from blowing up our case, or finding a way to remove me from office, if we get them to trial, you will learn what happened to John Kennedy, and who killed him. And you will learn that you have been living under a government for four years which has concealed evidence and destroyed evidence, lied to you again, again, and again.

Now, I don't say that President Johnson is involved IN the assasination, I have no reason to know that he is, but I do think this; I do think that the fact that he has profited from the assassination most, more than any other man, makes it imperative that he see that the evidence is released, so that we can know that he is not involved, rather than assuming.

Of course, I assume, that the

President of the United States is not involved, but wouldn't it be nice to know it?

Wouldn't it be nice to know if people who backed him for years in Texas are not involved. Of course, we'll assume it. But wouldn't it be nice to know that?

Is this a Great Society which allows innocence to be butchered as Oswald was? with no concern no interest, which allows the guilty, the murders to walk the streets, knowing without any question who they are, knowing what happened, is this a Great Society? Is it a Great Society which causes blackouts in news centers like New York, when there's a development in the case —which pressures governors so that the District Attorney of New Orleans, who is prosecuting the case, tries to get a man back from Ohio or Texas or Missouri or Iowa, so that he can never get them back ... when prior to that point extraditions were automatic. Is this a Great Society which monitors your phone if it has the

slightest bit of curiosity about you?

This is not a Great Society—this is a Dangerous Society—A society which despite the lip service to populism and a lip service to good things and material things and economic things, is so morally threadbare, that the futures of your children are in danger.

It raises a question as to whether the Constitution itself might not have been accidently burned to a crisp by now.

So now, we come to you of the Press who are here tonight because, the real need is for your help. To be blunt about it, the Press of America has been apathetic, the Press has been consumed with inertia since the assassination. The questions the Press asks about me, raises about me, are a very healthy thing. If I cannot survive it, then I'm in the wrong business. I don't care what questions they raise about the case, because I know we can win our case. That's the way it should be, and if the Press

has any doubts about me, if they think I'm politically ambitious, if they really think I'd charge somebody for some kind of personal gain, then they should raise the question. That's fine.

Because I'll survive it and I'll answer the questions. But, why don't they ask these questions that demand to be asked of the President of the United States? Have we reached a point where the President is so powerful, that the Press is afraid to ask him, "President Johnson, why cannot we see these hidden files?" Are they so afraid of the Golden Eagle that is the Presidential Emblem, so afraid of the power now massed in Washington, that we have become a fascist country? It's really up to you from now on. Because I've already had an example, and so have you, of what

can happen after a conviction. We obtained a major conviction already—conviction of Dean Andrews, for perjury in connection with this case!

And most of the country does

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Los Angeles Free Press *Nov. 17, 1967*

'Oswald framed with U.S. help'

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not know the details yet. It just didn't get out. And it might well be the same when other convictions occur.

So, if America ever needed a Press, it needed a Press today!

And let me tell you something about that. The most important thing that this country has ever given the world—and the thing for which we will be remembered—is the Bill of Rights. We took a big step forward from all the rest of history, in connection with the concern of government for the rights of individuals. But, these rights don't mean anything unless the Press is concerned.

What rights, for example, did Lee Oswald have in Dallas. He had no rights. He saw no lawyers, he had no rights at all. He was framed by people in law enforcement with U.S. government help. He had no rights at all. But if the Press had been concerned enough in Dallas, they would not have dared to do this, and if the Press in this country can just get concerned about what the present administration is doing about the lie that is being perpetrated, about the fact that the men who killed Jack Kennedy are still loose and untouched by Justice, then the President cannot continue to get away with turning his back on the problem. And that is what he is doing. And he must not be allowed to do it! Because this country does not belong to him, it belongs to you and 200 million men and women and children.

So let me just say this: that if you ever wished for an opportunity to do something for your profession and do something for your country, then you have such an opportunity as no one has had since being a reporter became a profession. If you can just get interested. If you can only get interested.

Because your country needs you now, as it never has before.

Thank you.